

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A peer-to-peer digital copyright management method and system are disclosed. The invention uses a network with a peer-to-peer connection structure. Each workstation has equivalent abilities and responsibilities. This style is distinguished from the client/server structure, where some computers are assigned to service other computers. In general, the peer-to-peer network is simpler. It does not need to be equivalent to the strong execution abilities and bandwidths of the client/server network. However, it has the drawback of being hard to manage. The invention combines all advantages of the peer-to-peer network platform and the client/server structure. In addition to providing a search share system, which can peer-to-peer rapidly distribute digital contents, it further provides an effective copyright management system which strictly controls file sharing and downloads. Network service points or equivalent currencies for each shared file download are accurately obtained from the download user. In each transaction, the profit is paid to the copyright owner, the download resource and bandwidth provider and the platform service provider. This does not only accelerate the distribution of digital contents, lowers the user's cost in obtaining needed software, but also protects the intelligence properties (IP) of the copyright owners.